

vital mission to protect and promote the public health. That mission includes the essential work of evaluating the safety and effectiveness of promising new life-saving and life-enhancing medical device technologies so that they may be used with patients in an expeditious manner. However, we must be sure that the Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH) are provided with the adequate resources to carry out their work. The number of patents issued in the medical device sector has increased by 30 percent in recent years. The private sector is committing substantial increases in funding to healthcare research and development. We are fortunate that the FDA will be faced with the task of evaluating many new technologies that will benefit all of us next year. It is my hope that we could review this issue in conference to ensure that the pre-market review function at CDRH receives an appropriate level of funding to carry out their mission.

Mr. DORGAN. I thank my colleague for raising this matter. It is my concern that the pre-market review function at the Center for Devices and Radiological Health does not have sufficient resources to keep up with the tremendous pace of innovation that is now taking place in the health sector. Despite the FDA's ongoing efforts to improve in this area, review times for breakthrough medical devices are lengthy and likely to get longer. While this bill makes important progress toward giving FDA the funds it needs to carry out its mission, I hope the chairman would work with us in conference to find a way to provide the resources needed to reduce medical device application review times.

Mr. KOHL. I appreciate the remarks and understand the concerns expressed by my colleagues. I agree that patients should not have to wait for promising new therapies due to insufficient resources at FDA. Language in the report accompanying the Senate bill states that the increase received by FDA's Devices and Radiological Health Program for fiscal year 2002 is consistent with agency estimates for bringing medical device application review times within statutory limits. While this statement is accurate according to the budget submitted to congress by the FDA, I have been informed that in testimony to the House Appropriations Committee, FDA officials stated the agency would need more funds than requested in their budget to decrease application review times significantly. I believe it is important for us to work together to resolve this issue, and look forward to working with my colleagues and our House counterparts in the Conference Committee.

Mr. VOINOVICH. Madam President, I was proud to offer an amendment to the fiscal year 2002 agriculture appropriations bill.

The amendment I offered last week set aside \$500,000 from the Office of Generic Drugs at the Food and Drug Administration for use in the education and dissemination of information to America's senior citizens regarding the efficacy, safety and availability of generic drugs.

Currently, the FDA informs the public and providers about generic drugs through print advertising, reaching a limited number of individuals. It is my hope that this amendment will allow FDA to enlarge its outreach, utilizing not only print media, but also radio and television public service announcements.

In the absence of a Medicare prescription drug benefit, it is imperative that Congress provide alternative avenues for seniors needing to lower their out-of-pocket prescription drug costs.

Although millions of seniors already know about and use generic drugs, there are still many others who are not aware of their availability. Indeed, many highly used brand-name drugs whose patents have expired have generic alternatives available. These generic drugs are chemically identical in their active ingredient to their brand-name counterparts and are sold at substantial discounts from the branded price.

For example, the prescription drug Kelflex, an antibiotic, costs approximately \$88 per month. Its generic equivalent costs about \$13 per month, a potential annual savings of \$900 for an individual who uses this product. In fact, according to the Congressional Budget Office, generic drugs save consumers an estimated \$8 to \$10 billion per year at retail pharmacies.

As each of my colleagues knows, the nature of health care has changed dramatically in America since the creation of Medicare in 1965. In many instances, diseases or conditions that once required hospitalization are now treated by pharmaceuticals. However, as advances in pharmaceuticals continue and the population ages, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services reports that national spending for prescription drugs is expected to more than double from an estimated \$117 billion to \$366 billion over the next ten years. Unfortunately, the financial burden on Medicare beneficiaries, those who use prescription drugs the most, will continue to increase. Consider the fact that Medicare beneficiaries account for 14 percent of the U.S. population, yet they consume approximately 43 percent of the nation's total drug expenditures and you can understand why we need to address this issue.

\$500,000 will ultimately only be a drop in the bucket in finding a solution to providing access to affordable prescription drugs to seniors. However, these funds will help provide valuable information to those who rely on medi-

cations the most. With greater reliance on pharmaceuticals, increased direct-to-consumer advertising and the increased empowerment of seniors, it is imperative that those who use prescription drugs become better educated about the availability of generic equivalents that are just as effective as their name-brand counterpart.

While seniors wait for Congress to pass permanent prescription drug benefit legislation, the federal government should capitalize on other opportunities to aid seniors in their effort to obtain affordable prescription drugs.

That is why I have offered this important amendment and why I will work with Secretary Thompson and the Department of Health and Human Services to provide seniors with thorough information regarding highly utilized drugs, their generic equivalent and comparative pricing, as well as any other pertinent information that is necessary to improve the health and quality of life of our senior citizens. This information would prove to be highly useful to seniors and could easily be included in the annual "Medicare & You" publication. Seniors are typically very knowledgeable consumers of health care, and whatever information we can provide is a critical way to help them bypass the high cost of prescription drugs.

It is a sad reality that some senior citizens on fixed incomes do not take their full doses of their medications because they try to save money by stretching out their supply. Unfortunately, such self-medication can lead to life threatening health considerations. The amendment I offered will help our seniors get the information they need on lower cost generic drugs so they may obtain the prescription drugs they need to live their lives to the fullest.

I thank the manager and ranking member of the subcommittee for accepting this important amendment.

#### CHANGES TO THE 2002 APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ALLOCATION AND BUDGETARY AGGREGATES

Mr. CONRAD. Madam President, section 314 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended, requires the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee to adjust the budgetary aggregates and the allocation for the Appropriations Committee by the amount of appropriations provided to the Social Security Administration for continuing disability reviews, up to \$520 million in 2002, and the amount of appropriations provided to the Department of Health and Human Services for adoption incentive payments, up to \$20 million in 2002. S. 1536, the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for 2002, provides a total of \$453 million for the two activities.

That budget authority will result in new outlays in 2002 of \$384 million.

Pursuant to section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act, I hereby revise the 2002 allocation provided to the Senate Appropriations Committee in the concurrent budget resolution.

Pursuant to section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, I hereby revise the 2002 budget aggregates included in the concurrent budget resolution.

I ask unanimous consent to print tables 1 and 2 in the RECORD, which reflect the changes made to the committee's allocation and to the budget aggregates.

There being no objection, the tables were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

TABLE 1.—REVISED ALLOCATION FOR APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, 2002  
(In millions of dollars)

	Budget authority	Outlays
Current Allocation:		
General Purpose Discretionary .....	547,491	537,523
Highways .....		28,489
Mass Transit .....		5,275
Conservation .....	1,760	1,232
Mandatory .....	358,567	350,837
Total .....	907,818	923,356
Adjustments:		
General Purpose Discretionary .....	453	384
Highways .....		
Mass Transit .....		
Conservation .....		
Mandatory .....		
Total .....	453	384
Revised Allocation:		
General Purpose Discretionary .....	547,944	537,907
Highways .....		28,489
Mass Transit .....		5,275
Conservation .....	1,760	1,232
Mandatory .....	358,567	350,837
Total .....	908,271	923,740

TABLE 2.—REVISED BUDGET AGGREGATES, 2002  
(In millions of dollars)

	Budget authority	Outlays	Surplus
Current allocation: Budget Resolution .....	1,515,766	1,481,544	187,121
Adjustments: CDRs, adoption incentives .....	453	384	-384
Revised allocation: Budget Resolution .....	1,516,219	1,481,928	186,737

Prepared by SBC Majority staff on 10-30-01.

#### SPECIALIST JONN J. EDMUNDS

Mr. THOMAS. Madam President, today I rise to speak about a very special soldier from Cheyenne, WY.

A U.S. Army Ranger was one of two soldiers killed October 19, when a Black Hawk helicopter crashed in Pakistan.

Sp. Jonn J. Edmunds died when the helicopter he was riding in crashed while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

Jonn Edmunds was a 1999 Cheyenne East High graduate. He was 20 years old.

Jonn Edmunds and Pfc. Kristofer T. Stonesifer of Missoula MT, are the first combat deaths of the U.S. led military campaign against terrorists in Afghanistan. The soldiers were members of B

Company Third Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, based in Fort Benning, GA.

Last Saturday, I attended Spc. Edmunds' funeral and had the opportunity to speak with Jonn Edmunds' father Donn. I told him how sorry we are for his loss. How words are not enough to comfort his family and friends or to express our pride for the job he was asked to do.

This unfortunately, is war and this terrible loss will not be the last. That certainly doesn't make it any less difficult for the family when someone like Jonn, young, patriotic, dedicated to his country and service, is killed.

I want to again offer my sincere condolences to the family. We don't pretend to understand your loss, but we share in your grief. Wyoming shares your grief and they, like I do, thank you for your son's service.

War is hell. It will take the lives of soldiers and innocents alike.

I believe, as do all Americans, that our cause is just. The cost of doing nothing would be much worse. This effort will not be a short one. It is important that we stay dedicated to the cause of defeating terrorism even in the face of terrible loss.

#### LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Madam President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of this year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred February 17, 1999 in Novato, CA. A 17-year-old gay male student, Adam Colton, was ambushed and severely beaten. The letters F-A-G had been scratched into his stomach and arms. Colton had been beaten the previous September in an anti-gay incident.

I believe that Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation, we can change hearts and minds as well.

#### OVERSEAS COOPERATIVES

Mr. HAGEL. Madam President, I rise to commend Senator LEAHY and Senator MCCONNELL for their leadership in crafting the Fiscal Year 2002 Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill.

I am here today to state my continued support of international economic assistance for programs that utilize cooperatives and credit unions. Last year, Senators GRAMS, FEINGOLD and I

sponsored the Support for Overseas Development Act, S. 3072. This Act was included as part of a larger bill, the Microenterprise for Self-Reliance and International Anti-Corruption Act, H.R. 4673, which was signed into public law on October 17, 2000. This bipartisan legislation enhances current language in Section 111 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

Overseas cooperatives foster similar principles abroad that U.S. cooperatives are based on: free democratic associations of mutual benefit for members. For four decades, cooperatives and credit unions have proven to be an effective and efficient way to assist people in developing and market transition countries. Currently, U.S. cooperatives are working in over 67 different countries.

Under our legislation, USAID is encouraged to put greater priority on the development of agricultural cooperatives for marketing, processing and inputs. USAID should explore community-based cooperatives for rural electric and telephone service when national utilities are privatized. Strong financial cooperatives, such as credit unions and farm credit associations, are ways to generate member-owned savings and provide micro-loans to entrepreneurs and farmers. Housing and community development cooperatives can address issues such as daycare for HIV/AIDS, orphans and community responses to environmental problems such as solid waste collection.

The Administrator of USAID, Andrew Natsios, is currently putting together a report to Congress regarding the implementation plan for this legislation. I am looking forward to reviewing this report.

Credit unions and rural cooperatives are able to mobilize local savings or equity for micro-loans as a way to provide greater food security, the world's poor need access to microenterprise loans, credit and savings. Rural areas in developing countries need electricity and telecommunications, yet history shows that there are insufficient profits for private companies to enter these markets. Cooperatives should be part of programs pursued by the World Bank and other multilateral institutions to enhance rural communities as part of their private sector approaches.

USAID can tap cooperative methodologies to bridge ethnic and sectarian differences to build communities in areas that are rife with conflict. In communities ravaged by HIV/AIDS, war, terrorism and inequality, cooperatives empower communities. Cooperatives are direct and meaningful expressions of diplomacy where poor people can participate in decision-making that affects their daily lives.